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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m.

Rev. Bruce Frank, Biltmore Baptist Church, Arden, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we call on You today as the sovereign, almighty, Holy God who can heal our land.

You have said that if wisdom is lacking, ask and You will give it. And so we're asking for wisdom this day. I pray for these congressional leaders. Pray You would fill them with wisdom on what to do. Pray You would give them the courage to do just that.

Pray You surround them with people who will speak truth into their ears and who will place principle above temporary favor. You have said, "Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord."

Pray You give us a recognition of our inadequacy for the task at hand and a dependence to carry out that task, for You have said, God resists the proud, but You give grace to the humble, and we're asking for grace today.

You are a God who abhors dishonest scales. Grant a determination to do the people's business with the utmost of integrity and remind us daily of our accountability to You for the service that we give.

May the words that are written behind me "In God We Trust" be true this day, in the name of my God and my Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, I pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON) come

forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND BRUCE FRANK

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. SHULER) for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my friend and brother in Christ, Pastor Bruce Frank, for opening the House of Representatives in prayer today.

Bruce Frank is the senior pastor at my church, Biltmore Baptist Church in Arden, North Carolina, where he provides spiritual guidance and inspiration for over 6,000 members.

Pastor Frank was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and grew up in Oklahoma and Texas. He and his wife, Lori, have two sons, Tyler and Conner. Before being called to our church, he served as pastor at Baptist churches both in Houston and Humble, Texas.

Pastor Frank has brought a renewed sense of spirit and purpose to my church and its congregants since he joined us in 2008. I am grateful that he was able to grace us with the same spirit and purpose as he led us in prayer this morning.

Pastor Frank, we love you.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 10 additional 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY STUDIES ABROAD CONSORTIUM

(Ms. TITUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University Studies Abroad Consortium. USAC developed out of an informal exchange of students and professors between the Basque Studies Program at the University of Nevada, Reno, and the University of the Basque Country in San Sebastian, Spain. Under the excellent leadership of Dr. Carmelo Urza, USAC has evolved into one of the largest and most successful study abroad programs in the United States today. Currently, there are 33 U.S. member universities offering programs in 25 countries at 39 sites, with an annual enrollment of about 2,500 students.

USAC is presently holding its annual meeting at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. This brings together staff from the U.S. member universities and the resident directors of all USAC sites around the globe.

I salute them for their hard work and dedication, because we know that studying abroad provides students with a unique opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, experience, and attitudes to succeed in the global society of the 21st century.

I offer this in memory of a key member of the USAC team and a dear personal friend, Dr. Felix Menchacatorre, who passed away last August.

Estas en el corazon—you are in our heart—Felix.

BUDGET DEBATE DEFINES CLEAR DIFFERENCES

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the debate unfolding

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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